

Sphere Art

(Grade 6 Print: “Man with Reflecting Sphere” by Escher)

Curriculum Connection: Science and History

Art Concept: Creating realism, light sources and 3D art
(EALR Grade 6 #1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2)

Grade: 6 and up

Materials: White construction paper (9x12 inches)
Colored construction paper (12x18 inches)
Color Pastels
Protractor and pencil
Scratch paper
Pieces of fruit (oranges, apples or other
sphere- shaped fruit or vegetable) or round balls
Flashlight and batteries
Glue
Scissors

Procedures:

1. Put fruit or balls on display in an area so that all students may view them. Discuss how one would discover what and how light sources affect spheres and where shadows appear. You may wish to shine a flashlight on one ball held up with other lights turned off. Try moving the light source around to different positions to view where shadows fall.
2. Have students view how shadows affect different colors and their hues.

3. Using scratch paper, protractor and pencil, have students draw a complete circle.
4. Using color pastels, have students color sphere, leaving one spot void of color to depict strongest light source point.
5. Using darker color or black pastel, color areas where shadows fall (usually a half moon shape away from light). Blend by rubbing area with finger to smooth edges. Sphere should appear 3 dimensional.
6. Once students are satisfied with shading skills, give them white construction paper. Have them draw a piece of fruit or ball using shading techniques. It may be useful to have students form groups where fruit or ball could be “shared” for viewing.
7. Glue artwork to colored construction paper and trimmed to create a frame.